quality agri horticulture produce. As in the Tenth plan, in the Eleventh plan also under the Scheme for Technology Upgradation/Modernization/Establishment of Food Processing Industries, Ministry of Food Processing Industries extending financial assistance to food processing units in the form of grants-in-aid @25% of the cost of plan and machinery and technical civil works subject to a maximum of Rs. 50.00 lakhs in general areas or 33.33% subject to maximum of Rs. 75.00 lakhs in difficult areas.

In regard to the multiplicity of Food Laws and enforcement agencies governing food products, the Government has notified an integrated Food Safety and Standard Act, 2006 which envisages establishment of the Food Safety and Standards Authority of India for laying down science based standards for articles of food and to regulate their manufacturer, storage, distribution, sale and import to ensure availability of safe and wholesome food for human consumption. The actions has also been initiated by the Government to amend Agriculture Produce Marketing Development and Regulation (APMC) Rules to create favourable legal regime and conducive environment for investment in Food Processing sector.

Kendriya Vidyalayas in Sub-Divisional Headquarters

314. SHRI KUMAR DEEPAK DAS: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government would consider to set up Kendriya Vidyalayas in every sub-divisional headquarter in Assam;

(b) if not, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether Government is taking a decision to provide all infrastructural facilities to the Kendriya Vidyalayas at Barpeta during the current financial year; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MD. ALI ASHRAF FATMI): (a) and (b) There is no such proposal at present.

(c) and (d) It has not been possible to provide full infrastructure facilities to Kendriya Vidyalaya, Barpeta as the State Government of Assam has not yet transferred suitable land to Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan for construction of the permanent building for the school.

Targeted capacity for primary, secondary and higher education

315. SHRI RAJEEV CHANDRASEKHAR: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the targeted capacity building for primary, secondary and higher secondary levels at the end of the Eleventh Five Year Plan; and

(b) the extent of increase in percentage of each level that would be achieved during the plan period?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MD. ALI ASHRAF FATMI): (a) and (b) The capacity building in elementary and secondary/higher secondary education is an ongoing exercise, which is spearheaded by the national apex institutions like National Council of Educational Research

and Training and National University of Educational Planning and Administration, particularly in quality issues and educational planning and administration. Under Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan, the target is to open twentry thousand primary schools, seventy thousand upper primary schools, construction of 8.87 lakh additional class rooms, 1500 hostels and to provide 4.68 lakh teachers during the Eleventh Five Year Plan. Under Secondary Education, the target is to provide a secondary school within five kms of any habitation during the Eleventh Plan period. To achieve the objective, Central Government has decided to implement a centrally sponsored scheme for universalization of access to and improvement of quality of education at secondary stage.

Quality of education system

316. SHRI EKANATH K. THAKUR: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that our entire education system, including the vast majority of our best schools and colleges, is substandard as the quality of teaching and learning provided by our best English medium schools is also mediocre;

(b) whether it is also a fact that most children complete 5 years of schooling in our Government schools acquiring very limited literacy and numerical skills; and

(c) if so, the steps Government proposes to take to reform our education system that is based on rote learning to the one which promotes critical thinking and practical skills?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) and (b) No, Sir.

(c) Dos not arise.

Performance of Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan in Assam

317. SHRI KUMAR DEEPAK DAS: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is satisfied with the performance of Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan in Assam; and

(b) whether Government is aware of mishandling of funds for S.S.A. in the State and if so, the steps taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MD. ALI ASHRAF FATMI): (a) The Seventh Joint Review Mission (JRM), for the Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA), reviewed the progress in Assam in January, 2008 and found satisfactory progress towards the goals of SSA.

(b) The report on the performance audit of the Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA) submitted by the Comptroller and Auditor General of India for the period 2001-02 to 2004-05 has classified an amount of about Rs. 6.80 crore in SSA Assam as expenditure not covered under SSA guidelines. An amount of Rs. 5.5769 crore has already been recouped to the State SSA Society from the Government of Assam. The State Government has been instructed by GOI to avoid recurrence of such instances in future.